

REMARKS

Claim 1 calls for “forming two pairs of electrodes for two spaced cells at the same time.” It is suggested that this is done (it is believed) in Figure 2 of the cited Lowrey reference, it being noted that there are three pairs 130a and 130b of horizontally spaced electrodes. In fact, there are three contacts 130a and three contacts 130b shown in Figure 2.

The issue is whether there are two pairs of electrodes for two spaced cells that are formed at the same time. The cited reference to Lowrey teaches a memory device 100 that comprises two independent single cell memory elements. The first single cell memory element comprises a first contact 130a, the memory material layer 250, and the second contact 270. This would correspond to the first stack in Figure 2 on the left. The second single cell memory element comprises a first contact 130b, memory material layer 250, and second contact 270. See the specification of the Lowrey patent at paragraph 33.

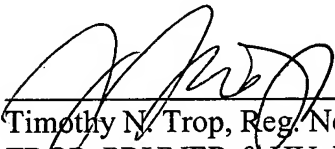
Thus, it is respectfully submitted that it is impossible that the reference teaches forming two pairs of electrodes for two spaced cells at the same time. That is because no cell in Lowrey ever has two pairs of electrodes that are formed at the same time. While the Examiner contends that the contacts 130a and 130b are formed at the same time, if they are formed at the same time, they were formed for different cells, as explained in paragraph 33 of Lowrey. Certainly, the Examiner would agree that, for example, the contact 130a and the second contact 270 are not a pair of horizontally spaced electrodes formed on said substantially planar layer.

While the above remarks are believed to be sufficient to distinguish the reference, it is noted that there are many other differences.

Therefore, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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